

**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A TAXIWAY AND TAXIWAY VISUAL AIDS
AT
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA**

Per the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500-1508) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the United States Marine Corps gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will not be prepared for the construction and operation of a taxiway and taxiway visual aids at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Camp Pendleton. NEPA requires federal agencies to prepare an EIS for major federal actions that have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on the following summary of effects (as discussed in the EA), it has been determined that the construction and operation of a taxiway and taxiway visual aids at MCAS Camp Pendleton will not have a significant impact on the human environment and does not require the preparation of an EIS.

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 an Environmental Assessment was drafted regarding the intended construction and operation of a taxiway and taxiway visual aids at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Camp Pendleton. This evaluated potential impacts to the environment that may result from the proposed construction. The Proposed Action would measurably enhance all-weather operations at MCAS Camp Pendleton, providing for safe operation of the facility and insuring compliance with Federally-mandated safety requirements.

PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action would include construction of a new taxiway and the installation of navigation aids on MCAS Camp Pendleton.

The following projects are subsidiary elements of the Proposed Action:

- Taxiway signage
- Construct taxiway near Precision Approach Radar (PAR)
- Install Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI)

ALTERNATIVES

The only realistic alternative to the Proposed Action is to not proceed with the improvements. Alternative, taxiway signage would not be installed. MCAS Camp Pendleton would therefore not be in compliance with DoD and FAA guidelines. The proposed taxiway would not be constructed, congestion

FONSI for the Construction of Various Taxiway Improvements at MCAS Camp Pendleton

at the west end of the runway would continue, and concern for the safety of aircraft and crews would remain an issue. The PAPI would not be installed. Pilots would not be assisted by visual clues provided by the PAPI. The efficiency of runway operations would be unchanged. The No Action alternative therefore possesses a variety of serious limitations.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The EA analyzed the potential environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the above alternatives. Resources analyzed included earth resources, water resources, safety and environmental health, transportation, land use, cultural and biological resources. There were no significant impacts identified for any of these resources except that safety would be enhanced by the Proposed Action.

Other resources, including aesthetics and public utilities, were not evaluated, as there was no potential for impacts to such resources. The EA also reviewed cumulative impacts that could result from the incremental impact of the proposed action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. This review indicated that significant cumulative impacts would not occur with regard to any resource area for any of the alternatives.

FINDINGS

The Proposed Action would not cause any significant potential negative impacts. It would if implemented provide potential improvements in safety.

No cultural resources will be adversely impacted by the Proposed Action.

There will not be any disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects from the action on minority and low-income population. Nor will there be any impacts associated with the protection of children from environmental health risks and safety risks.

The EA prepared by the Marine Corps addressing this action is on file and may be reviewed by interested parties at the place of origin: Commanding Officer, MCAS Camp Pendleton (Attn: Environmental Officer), California 92055. Copies are available upon request.

APPROVAL:



P.C. Christian.
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer
Marine Corp Air Station Camp Pendleton

9 April, 2002
Date